

## Message Text

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ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 H-03 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3090

INFO AMEMBASSY SANA

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USMTM/DCR RIYADH

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECDC/ECCS/ECJ3//

OSAF WASHDC//SAFLL

SECDEF WASHDC//ASD/ISA/DSAA//

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 6143

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, PEPR, SA (SIKES, ROBERT AND FLYNT, JOHN)

SUBJ: CODEL SIKES/FLYNT: MEETING WITH PRINCE SULTAN

1. CONGRESSMAN SIKES AND CONGRESSMAN FLYNT MET FOR AN HOUR WITH MIN DEF PRINCE SULTAN ON AUGUST 21. THE MEETING WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY AMBASSADOR, SPECIAL COUNSELOR ISA SABBAGH, MAJOR LONNIE ALEXANDER, ASSISTANT DATT AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR.

2. CONGRESSMAN FLYNT SAID THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUE HAD HAD A VERY MEANINGFUL DISCUSSION THAT MORNING WITH PRINCE SAUD. PRINCE SAUD HAD SKETCHED FOR THEM THE THREAT POSED BY THE SOVIET UNION TO THE YAR AND SAUDI ARABIA. BOTH HE AND CONGRESSMAN SIKES AGREED WITH THE REALITY OF THAT THREAT. THE PURPOSE OF THEIR MEETING WITH PRINCE SULTAN WAS TO GET HIS VIEWS ON HOW BEST TO PROCEED. HE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT SAG WAS INTERESTED IN HAVING THE SOVIETS REPLACED. HE FELT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THIS BE A JOINT EFFORT, SINCE THE STRENGTH OF THE JOINT EFFORT WOULD THEN BE MORE THAN DOUBLE THE TOTAL OF TWO SINGLE  
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EFFORTS. CONGRESSMAN FLYNT STRESSED THAT HE DID NOT SEE ANY THREAT FROM SOUTH YEMEN ALONE BUT THAT IT WAS THE GATEWAY THROUGH WHICH THE USSR POSES A THREAT TO BOTH SAUDI ARABIA AND THE U.S. IF THE SOVIETS WERE TO GAIN COMPLETE CONTROL OF NORTH YEMEN IT WOULD SIMPLY BE A SECOND GATEWAY FOR THE SOVIET THREAT. HE ADDED THAT IT WAS THE INTENTION OF CONGRESSMAN SIKES AND HIMSELF TO IMPRESS

UPON THE PRESIDENT AND THE U.S. CONGRESS THE DANGER THAT THEY HAD FOUND IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA. CONGRESSMAN SIKES ECHOED THE SENTIMENTS OF CONGRESSMAN FLYNT AND EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR THE ROLE THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAS BEEN PLAYING IN COUNTERING THE SOVIET THREAT IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA AND IN THE REGION. HE SAID THAT THEY RECOGNIZED THE ESSENTIALITY OF TIME AND THE NEED FOR MORE RAPID MOVEMENT TO COPE WITH THE SOVIET THREAT. HE PERSONALLY WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS NOT PROCEEDING WITH THE SPEED THAT WAS REQUIRED. IF WE WAITED ANOTHER YEAR, IT MAY BE TOO LATE. HE STRESSED THAT NEITHER HE NOR CONGRESSMAN FLYNT COULD COMMIT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT BUT THAT THEY WOULD DO THEIR BEST TO GET THE USG TO MOVE FASTER.

3. PRINCE SULTAN SAID THAT HE FOUND HIMSELF AT A LOSS TO IMPROVE ON WHAT THE TWO CONGRESSMEN HAD SAID. HE FELT COMFORTED AND VERY GRATIFIED BY THEIR REMARKS. HERE ARE THE ASSURANCES THAT SAG HAS ASPIRED SO LONG TO HEAR FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THREE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CONGRESSMEN'S TRIP TO YAR. FIRST, WITH THEIR PERMISSION HE WOULD LIKE TO SEND A PERSONAL TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT SALIH EXPLAINING THE CORDIALITY OF HIS MEETING WITH THEM AND HOW PLEASED HE HAD BEEN WITH THEIR EXPRESSIONS. HE WOULD URGE THAT PRESIDENT SALIH OPEN HIS HEART TO THE CONGRESSMEN. THE CONGRESSMEN AGREED WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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SULTAN'S FIRST SUGGESTION.

4. PRINCE SULTAN'S SECOND SUGGESTION WAS TO KEEP THEIR COOL IN DISCUSSIONS WITH YARG. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE YAR HAD SEEN MANY UPHEAVALS OVER THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS. MANY OF THE OLDER AND WISER HEADS WERE NO LONGER WITH US. THE PEOPLE THE CONGRESSMEN WILL SEE ARE THE YOUNGER AND TENDERER ELEMENTS OF THE COUNTRY. THEY ARE INCLINED TO BE IMPETUOUS AND BLUNT. THE CONGRESSMEN SHOULD NOT LET THEMSELVES BE RATTLED BY ANYTHING THEY YEAR FROM THE YAR LEADERS. BOTH CONGRESSMEN SIKES AND FLYNT THANKED PRINCE SULTAN FOR THIS EXCELLENT ADVICE.

5. PRINCE SULTAN'S LAST SUGGESTION WAS THAT THE MUSIC THE CONGRESSMEN HAD PLAYED IN HIS EARS BE AMPLIFIED AND MAGNIFIED EVEN MORE IN THE YAR. CONGRESSMAN SIKES REPLIED THAT ANYONE WITH THE WISDOM THAT PRINCE SULTAN HAD SHOWN SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF CONGRESS\*

6. CONGRESSMAN FLYNT SAID THAT WE SHOULD AT SOME POINT DISCUSS THE ITEMS AND NUMBERS OF EQUIPMENT THAT THE YAR NEEDS. PRINCE SULTAN ANSWERED THAT WE KNOW WHAT THEY

CAN ABSORB AND CANNOT. HE KEEPS TRYING TO CALM THE YARG  
DOWN. SAG DOES NOT WANT TO SEE THEM DROP EVERYTHING AND  
ARM THEMSELVES TO THE TEETH. HOWEVER, IT IS NECESSARY  
TO GIVE THEM SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF ARMS IN ORDER TO MAKE  
A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO YAR'S MILITARY CAPABILITY.  
HE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO SEE A MILITARY TRAINING MISSION IN  
THE YAR. CONGRESSMAN SIKES ASKED IF SAUDI ARABIA WOULD  
PARTICIPATE IN THE TRAINING PROCESS. SULTAN SAID THAT  
SAG WAS IN THE PROCESS OF TRAINING 1,000 YEMENIS IN  
SAUDI ARABIA. SAG WOULD BE WILLING TO DOUBLE THAT NUMBER  
EITHER IN SAUDI ARABIA OR IN THE U.S.

7. CONGRESSMAN SIKES AND FLYNT HAVE SEEN AND APPROVED.  
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## Message Attributes

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